

FOR DISCUSSION PURPOSES ONLY

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 2 and 13-14, amend claims 1, 3-4, 8, 10-11, and 15, and add claims 18-22 as indicated among the following complete set of pending claims:

Claim 1. (Currently amended) An insulating receptacle for a beverage container which comprises:

- a) an insulating sleeve having first and second ends, said first end having a first opening dimensioned to conformably receive a beverage container therein,
- b) [[an]]a plurality of inwardly extending annular gripping members on an interior of the sleeve configured for defining a volume of air between the gripping members; [[flange formed integrally with said sleeve at the second end thereof and bounding a second opening;]]and
- c) a plurality of suction cups affixed to the[[flange]]sleeve.

Claim 2. (Canceled)

Claim 3. (Currently amended) The insulating receptacle of claim[[2]]1 wherein said[[peripheral]] annular gripping members sealingly engage the container.

Claim 4. (Currently amended) The insulating receptacle of claim 3 further comprising a third[[peripheral]] annular gripping member formed in said sleeve, one of said gripping members being located

- b) [[an]]at least one inwardly extending[[flange]] rib having a second girth smaller than the first girth, the inwardly extending rib formed integrally with said sleeve and configured for sealingly engaging an outer surface of a beverage container[[at the second
end thereof and bounding the second opening]]]; and
- c) a plurality of suction cups affixed to the sleeve.

Claim 11. (Currently amended) The insulating receptacle of claim 10 wherein:

the at least one inwardly extending rib is a first inwardly extending rib, the insulating receptacle further comprising a second inwardly extending rib; and

the first and second inwardly extending ribs are first and second peripheral gripping members
formed in said sleeve and having the second girth for sealingly engaging a beverage container placed in
said sleeve.

Claim 12. (Original) The insulating receptacle of claim 11 further comprising a third peripheral gripping member formed in said sleeve, one of said gripping members being located at said first end.

Claim 13. (Cancelled)

Claim 14. (Cancelled)

Claim 15. (Currently amended) The insulating receptacle of claim[[14]] 11 wherein at least one suction cup is adjacently spaced from each of the first and second[[peripheral gripping]] inwardly extending ribs.

at said first end.

Claim 5. (Original) The insulating receptacle of claim 4 wherein two of the gripping members are ribs formed in said sleeve.

Claim 6. (Original) The insulating receptacle of claim 5 wherein said ribs are adjacently spaced from the first and second openings.

Claim 7. (Original) The insulating receptacle of claim 6 wherein said sleeve is formed of flexible insulating material.

Claim 8. (Currently amended) The insulating receptacle of claim 7[[wherein said]] further comprising a flange extending from a second end of the sleeve, the flange bounding a second opening, wherein the flange contains a plurality of apertures spaced about the second opening and said suction cups each include a stem for insertion[[s]] into an aperture.

Claim 9. (Original) The insulating receptacle of claim 8 further comprising a bonding agent applied to the stem of the suction cups.

Claim 10. (Currently amended) An insulating receptacle for a beverage container which comprises:

- a) an insulating sleeve having an interior surface with a first girth, the insulating sleeve having first and second ends, said first end having a first opening dimensioned to conformably receive a beverage container therein, said second end including a second opening therein;

Claim 16. (Original) The insulating receptacle of claim 15 wherein said sleeve is formed of flexible insulating material.

Claim 17. (Original) The insulating receptacle of claim 16 wherein said sleeve contains a plurality of apertures, and said suction cups each include a stem for insertion into an aperture.

Claim 18. (New) The insulating receptacle of claim 10 further comprising:

an inwardly extending flange formed integrally with said sleeve at the second end thereof and bounding the second opening; and

the plurality of suction cups affixed to the inwardly extending flange.

Claim 19. (New) The insulating receptacle of claim 1 wherein the number of suction cups in the plurality of suction cups is in a range from two to fifteen.

Claim 20. (New) The insulating receptacle of claim 1 further comprising a means of securing and insulating the beverage container.

Claim 21. (New) A method of securing and insulating a beverage container, the method comprising:

engaging an outer wall of the beverage container by at least one inwardly projecting annular gripping member on an inner wall of a sleeve surrounding the beverage container; and

securing the sleeve to a mounting surface by a plurality of suction cups secured to the sleeve;

wherein the step of engaging comprises isolating a volume of air between an inner wall of the

sleeve and the outer wall of the beverage container over a major portion of the outer wall; and

wherein the step of securing comprises securing the sleeve by the plurality of suction cups in number ranging from two to twelve.

Claim 22. (New) The method of claim 21, wherein the step of securing further comprises facilitating ease of release of the beverage container by providing an access opening in an end of the sleeve opposite to the inwardly projecting annular gripping member.